AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice, and amend claims 16 and 18, as indicated below:

1-15. Cancelled.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for compressing video information, <u>wherein the video information includes consecutive images including at least one substantially redundant image,</u> comprising:

      means for receiving data indicative of ~~whether~~ <u>which images in</u> consecutive images in the video information are <u>substantially</u> redundant;

      means responsive to the received data for removing ~~at least one of~~ the substantially redundant ~~consecutive~~ images;

      means for compressing the video information without the substantially redundant ~~consecutive~~ images; and

      means for storing the compressed video information and the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images is stored in association with the compressed video information.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for compressing video information, <u>wherein the video information includes consecutive images including at least one substantially redundant image,</u> comprising:

      receiving data indicative of ~~whether~~ <u>which images in</u> consecutive images in the video information are substantially redundant;

      removing ~~at least on of~~ the substantially redundant ~~consecutive~~ images according to the received data;

      compressing the video information without the substantially redundant ~~consecutive~~ images; and

storing the compressed video information and the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the data indicative of the substantially redundant consecutive images is stored in association with the compressed video information.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for decompressing stored and compressed digital video information having a frame rate corresponding to 24 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information was generated by eliminating substantially redundant consecutive images in uncompressed digital video information originating from a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information has associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information, the method comprising:

receiving the associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information;

decompressing the compressed digital video information to provide corresponding decompressed digital video information at a frame rate of 24 frames per second; and

generating a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 from the decompressed video signal by reintroducing the substantially redundant consecutive images according to the received information.

21. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for decompressing stored and compressed digital video information having a frame rate corresponding to 24 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information was generated by eliminating substantially redundant consecutive images in uncompressed digital video information originating from a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 frames per second, wherein the compressed digital video information has associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving the associated information indicating where the substantially redundant consecutive images were located in the uncompressed digital video information;

means for decompressing the compressed digital video information to provide corresponding decompressed digital video information at a frame rate of 24 frames per second; and

means for generating a video signal having a frame rate of 29.97 from the decompressed video signal by reintroducing the substantially redundant consecutive images according to the received information.